

SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT FACT SHEET

Massachusetts Department of Public Health, Bureau of Substance Abuse Services

This fact sheet contains information about the impact of alcohol and other drug use in the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District. Admission data were reported to the Bureau of Substance Abuse Services (BSAS) Substance Abuse Management Information System in FY 2003.

Residents of Fourteenth Bristol Representative District

Characteristics of Admissions

In FY 2003, there were 115,896 admissions to licensed substance abuse treatment services in all of Massachusetts; less than one percent (986) of these admissions reside in the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District. 1% (12) of admissions from the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District were under 17 years of age. **Please note that these statistics represent only individual admissions, and represent a figure lower than the actual number of constituents in need of treatment services.** In FY 2003, admissions to all residential and outpatient substance abuse treatment services from the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District reported the following characteristics:

- 81% were male and 19% were female.
- 58% were between the ages of 30-49.
- 86% were white non-Latino, 5% were black non-Latino, 5% were Latino, and 4% were other racial categories.
- 61% were never married, 14% were married, and 26% reported not to be married now.
- 22% had less than high school education, 53% completed high school, and 25% had more than high school education.
- 34% were employed.
- 21% were homeless.
- 36% had prior mental health treatment.

Primary Substance of Use

At admission clients also identify a “primary drug” of use that is the substance for which the client is seeking treatment. Table 1 compares the proportional distribution of primary drugs in Massachusetts with that for the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District.

Table 1					
Primary Drug by District and State FY 2003					
	Alcohol	Heroin	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack
District	62%	21%	5%	4%	3%
State	43%	38%	6%	4%	4%

Substances Used in Past Year

Upon entering treatment, each client is asked to report ALL substances used in the past year (12 months) prior to admission. Admissions frequently report using more than one substance within the year. The use of more than one psychoactive substance, such as alcohol and marijuana, is referred to as ‘polydrug’ or ‘polysubstance’ use.

Table 2 shows ALL substances which clients reported using in the year prior to admission, as well as the prevalence of injection drug users (or IDU's), individuals who use a needle to ingest cocaine, crack, heroin or another drug to get high.

Table 2 Annual Admissions by Substance Used FY 1995 – FY 2003 Fourteenth Bristol Representative District							
	Total	Alcohol	Marijuana	Cocaine	Crack	Heroin	IDU
FY '95	1,054	930	333	329	158	197	145
FY '96	1,103	979	375	348	151	236	159
FY '97	1,243	1,104	422	329	202	207	165
FY '98	1,305	1,145	469	380	235	315	232
FY '99	1,183	1,038	446	368	172	284	227
FY '00	1,031	881	328	277	146	278	223
FY '01	983	847	330	246	144	265	194
FY '02	1,025	866	303	266	136	272	194
FY '03	986	819	288	254	127	276	187

Heroin and Injection Drug Use

Figure 1 below shows the proportional increases in all admissions in the Fourteenth Bristol Representative District and the proportional increase in admissions reporting heroin and injection drug use, a factor driving increases in HIV.

